

House Resolution 1295

By: Representatives Thomas of the 55th, Holmes of the 61st, Sinkfield of the 60th, Brooks of the 63rd, and Kaiser of the 59th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Dr. Jahti Jackson-Maasai; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Jahti Jackson-Maasai was born and raised in New York City, New York,
3 during the civil disobedience, urban unrest, and later the heroin plague of the 1950s and
4 1960s;

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Maasai learned early in life just what the damage that stress and toxins do
6 to the bodies and the psyche of oppressed people; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Maasai began his career in the fields of HIV and AIDS prevention and
8 substance abuse intervention, helping to shape drug prevention programs in the New York
9 City Public School System; and

10 WHEREAS, after relocating to Atlanta in 1989, Dr. Maasai co-founded one of the first Rites
11 of Passage programs in Atlanta; and

12 WHEREAS, based primarily in the inner city neighborhoods of Atlanta, Dr. Maasai focused
13 on youth development and community organization, and from his work there, a realization
14 took hold that one cannot change the community until one heals the people living in it; and

15 WHEREAS, the Spirit led Dr. Maasai to the Ahimki Center for Wholeness, founded by Dr.
16 Mark Armstrong; and

17 WHEREAS, it was here that Dr. Maasai immersed himself in the Naturopathy Doctorate
18 Program, embracing the concept of "Healing the Planet One Person at a Time," and he
19 followed this concept throughout his life; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Maasai co-created Man UP, a manhood development program in the inner
2 city communities of Atlanta that trains and lectures on the healing of men of African descent,
3 redirecting their warrior spirit to serve the family and community.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, that
5 the members of this body join in honoring the life of Dr. Jahti Jackson-Massai and extend
6 their most sincere condolences to his family and friends.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Clerk of the House of Representatives is hereby
8 authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Dr.
9 Jahti Jackson-Maasai.